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GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

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AN ARAB PLUCKS A PRIMITIVE LYRE AGAINST A MODERN MACHINE BACKDROP

Such contrasts are common in Saudi Arabia, a feudal desert kingdom suddenly rich with royalties from American oil companies operating within its borders. However, the lyre openly played is unusual, for King Abdul Aziz al Saud heads the Wahabis, Islamic puritans who denounce music, tobacco, and liquor. This worker, between songs, uses the scraper he sits on to grade the road between Jidda and Medina, cross country from the oil lands (Bulletin No. 2).

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETIN

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Crisis in Unhappy Greece Recalls Country's Turbulent History

DISTURBANCES in Greece over national elections scheduled for March 31 recall the Aegean country's turbulent history since it threw off the Turkish yoke in 1830 and became a European nation.

During this period Greece's territory grew bit by bit. When it was freed from Turkey, Greece included only the Peloponnesus, hand-shaped expanse of land attached to the Greek peninsula by the low and narrow isthmus of Corinth; the southern part of mainland Greece, including Athens (illustration, inside cover); and some of the Aegean islands.

Status of Crete in Doubt from 1908 to 1913

Not until 1863 was this area sizably increased. In that year Great Britain handed over the Ionian Islands, which had been under British protection since Waterloo. Thessaly and Epirus—mainland areas—were acquired from Turkey in 1881 by formal agreements.

The Christians of Crete proclaimed in 1908 union with Greece, but Turkey did not relinquish her claim to the big Mediterranean island until after the first Balkan war in 1912-13. Through the second Balkan war Greece got from Turkey parts of Macedonia, sharing it with Bulgaria and Serbia. By the unratified 1920 Treaty of Sèvres, Greece added the Turkish port of Izmir (Smyrna), eastern Thrace, and the Aegean islands of Imroz and Bozcaada (Tenedos).

From 1920 to 1923 Greece fought to retain these gains. The Turks defeated the Greeks in İzmir and adjoining areas of Asia Minor. By the Treaty of Lausanne, which ended the fighting, provision was made for the removal of more than a million Greek farmers and artisans from Asia Minor to Greek Macedonia and Greek Thrace. At the same time Turks living within Greece were transferred to Turkish territory.

Before World War II, when Greece had filled out to its familiar shape, it had a land area about matching that of the State of Alabama. Of this territory, islands added up to an area nearly equalling that of New Hampshire. In 1940, the population was estimated at about 7,500,000.

Greece's territorial revisions were accompanied by sweeping shifts in the national government. Kings, presidents, and premiers rose and fell, and political fortunes changed overnight.

Greeks Looked to Other Countries for Kings

In a long war Greece fought her way free from Turkey, and her independence was recognized in 1830. Declared a kingdom by the Protocol of London, Greece offered the crown to Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, and, when he refused it, to Prince Otto of Bavaria, who became Otto I, King of Hellas, in 1833. After a reign of 29 years he was forced out by a military revolt.

A provisional government was set up, and the choice of Otto's successor put to popular vote. Prince Alfred of England was elected and proclaimed king, but the British Government declined the honor. Then the crown was offered to Prince William, younger son of King Christian of Denmark, who accepted and ascended the Greek throne as George I in 1863. Assassinated in 1913, he was followed by his son Constantine, who ruled until June 11, 1917, when he was forced to abdicate by the Allied Powers.

Alexander, the second son of Constantine, then became king, and ruled until

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B. Anthony Stewart

ATHENS HOLDS TWO CENTERS OF GREEK LIFE—ANCIENT AND MODERN: THE ACROPOLIS, CROWNED BY THE PARTHENON; AND CONSTITUTION SQUARE, WHOSE TABLES AND CHAIRS ATTRACT GREGARIOUS GREEKS AT EVENING (Bulletin No. 1)

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Yemen Follows Saudi Arabia in Discarding Forbidden-Land Role

TWO independent kingdoms in the Arabian Peninsula are losing their old reputation as lands aloof and forbidden. Yemen, broadening its policy toward the Western world, has invited the United States to send envoys this spring to work out diplomatic relations. Saudi (pronounced sah-oo-dee) Arabia, as an indication of its standing friendshp with the United States, has allowed the U. S. Army to build an airfield at Dhahran, in the midst of the Damman oil wells.

Yemen is a Nebraska-sized triangle of mountainous land at the southern end of the Red Sea, north of Great Britain's Aden Protectorate. To its north lies the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Exactly how far it wedges eastward into Saudi Arabia and how to set a population figure on its numerous tribes are problems which have never been completely solved.

Yemen's Ruler Long Kept Foreigners Out of Country

When Yahya, present Imam (priest-ruler) of Yemen, succeeded his father in 1904, the state belonged to the Ottoman Empire along with all the eastern Red Sea coast. When modern Turkey sprang from the ashes of the former empire after World War I, distant Yemen became a sovereign state.

For years the Imam maintained a policy of forbidding foreigners except to the country's Red Sea port of Hodeida. Few outsiders except experts in the cultivation and curing of coffee have seen the inland region of the kingdom during Yahya's long rule.

The Imam in 1926 surprised the world by signing a treaty with Italy. Great Britain's turn came in 1934. Yemen also made a treaty for mutual protection with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in that year.

Yemen's Jebel plateauland wrings the water from the Indian Ocean monsoons to grow the famous Mocha coffee long cherished by the European market. Oldest of cultivated coffees, it takes its name from the Yemen port which has been virtually abandoned in favor of Hodeida. Barley, wheat, and millet are grown, and livestock yields hides for some export trade. Unmeasured petroleum wealth lies underground.

In order to export all the beans, Yemenites thriftily use the husks of their coffee to make a drink that tastes like hot barley water. For a five o'clock stimulant they chew the leaves of the *qat* shrub.

The United States mission will travel the one motor road in Yemen, from Hodeida eastward to inland San'a, the capital, 7,260 feet above Red Sea level. San'a reveals its religious character in its palace of the Imam, its 48 Moslem mosques, and its surrounding wall with eight gates, but its wide streets and high, many-storied buildings are unlike those of other Arab cities.

Saudi Arabian Airport Will Shorten the Route from Cairo to India

Saudi Arabia's Dhahran was completely undeveloped until oil was found in the near-by desert. The building of the giant airport which will shorten the route between Cairo and India created a modern boom town. Now Dhahran has installed an air-cooling system, and the water in its modern swimming pool is clear and cool. Oil workers, most of them from the United States, can enjoy a game of softball in the evenings, under brilliant floodlights, and can finish off the game with pie à la mode or their favorite soda-fountain drink. A near-by "farm"

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his death in 1920. Until the will of the people could be made known, Queen Olga, widow of George I and mother of Constantine, acted as regent. Through a plebiscite Constantine was returned to the throne, reigning until his abdication in 1922. His eldest son, George II, succeeded him, but was forced to leave Greece in 1923 by pressure from a military junta.

By April, 1924, the appeal of monarchy had definitely waned. In that month and year the people voted for the establishment of a republic. The new form of government, with a provisional president, was proclaimed May 1.

Since that event there has been a swift sequence of maneuvers by personalities and parties, leading in 1935 to the overthrow of the republic and the restoration of the monarchy. When the Germans entered Greece the king and members of the government fled to Crete, thence to Egypt, and from there to England by way of South Africa.

Resistance groups within Greece started fighting among themselves once the Germans had been driven out of the country. A "caretaker" government was set up after British troops had quelled the incipient civil war. The currently scheduled elections are for the purpose of electing a parliament which will determine the future course of the country.

Note: Greece is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of Central Europe and the Mediterranean. A price list of maps may be obtained from the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

For further information, see "Classic Greece Merges into 1941 News," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for January, 1941*; and "Modern Odyssey in Classic Lands," March, 1940*; and in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, January 8, 1945, "Allies in Europe: 1. Greece." (*Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for $1.00.*)

Bulletin No. 1, April 1, 1946

Maynard Owen Williams

IN THE PELOPONNESUS, GREEK SHEPHERDS MAKE CHEESE FROM SHEEP'S MILK

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Natural Barrier of Pyrenees Separates Spain from France

BECAUSE the Pyrenees Mountains form a natural rampart between France and Spain, the recent closing of the international border actually involved only the blocking of a few railroad and automobile passes.

The Pyrenees, whose cloud-enshrouded crags and snowy peaks are original "Castles in Spain," stretch for about 260 miles in an unbroken line from the Bay of Biscay to the Mediterranean Sea. On the French side erosion has modified the slopes, and the valleys are green. The Spanish side, however, is more rugged and barren, with some of the mountains rising to a height of two miles or more.

Chief Rail Lines Hug the Coasts

The principal routes for international travel follow the west and east coasts, for only there do the Pyrenees dip to sea level. The resort town of Hendaye on the Bay of Biscay and the foothill city of Perpignan, near the Mediterranean, are the French border points handling most of the traffic.

One railroad crosses an international bridge from Hendaye for a junction with the Spanish line at Irún, a typical Basque community. Another important rail line connects Perpignan with Barcelona, Spain. Since the Spanish rails are a wider gauge, passengers and freight must be transferred.

For security against land invasion, Spain has maintained a wider railroad gauge than most of the rest of Europe. A movement in 1882 to narrow the gauge to conform to France's and thereby remove the difficulties of crossing the border did not succeed.

In the interior are secondary railroads, one reaching the border between Oloron, France, and Jaca, high in the Spanish mountains. Two French lines from Toulouse and Perpignan meet farther east to join a Spanish line at Puigcerda, a 12th century Spanish town. Puigcerda is east of the tiny independent state of Andorra, a group of feudal communities lying in deep valleys along the frontier.

Mountain passes through which automobile traffic can move are nearly as infrequent as the railroads, and drifts of snow, whipped by icy winds, block these highways for weeks at a time. Footpaths across the frontier are more numerous, for shepherds and cattlemen long have tramped the mountainsides seeking greener pastures for their flocks and herds.

Hero Roland's Last Fight Was in Border Country

Through the centuries the Pyrenees have echoed to the marching feet of many armies and military leaders—Hannibal, the Vandal hordes, the Mohammedans, Charlemagne, Napoleon, and others. The present frontier was established in 1659 when the Peace of the Pyrenees ended a long war between France and Spain.

The legend of Roland centers in the Pyrenees Valley of Roncesvalles (Roncevaux), on the road from Pamplona, Spain, to St. Jean Pied de Port, France. The action in which Roland lost his life is presumably based on actual history—a minor defeat of Charlemagne's rear guard while trailing through the defile of Roncesvalles in 778.

In the remote mountain regions (illustration, next page) many traditions of the Middle Ages still prevail. At one point high in the Basque country, for example, a small group of Frenchmen and Spaniards gathers once a year for the former to pay a tribute of three heifers. The ceremony dates officially from a

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keeps cows, geese (illustration, below), goats, and rabbits.

Dhahran is a few miles inland from the old Persian Gulf port of Damman, nine miles southeast of Qatif. Two pipelines carry oil from the Damman field north to the Ras at Tannura refinery. Southeastward a third pipeline carries the petroleum to the Bahrein Island refinery.

Saudi Arabia's 1945 output of more than 21 million barrels of oil was almost three times that of the year before. Royalties from American companies have more than offset the country's financial losses resulting from greatly reduced pilgrimages to Mecca during the war.

Americans will train Arabs to operate the new Dhahran airfield. American oil interests already are teaching the Arabs metal welding, electrical wiring, motor winding, the operation of lathes, and similar processes incident to petroleum production.

There has been little manufacture in Saudi Arabia. The nomad Bedouins have tanned their own leather, woven their own coarse cloth tents and blankets. They have been their own blacksmiths and saddlers. In the towns artisans include weavers, silver- and goldsmiths, masons, makers of spears and swords. King Abdul Aziz al Saud has converted many Bedouin nomads to townsmen.

The country has fertile soil in the wadis of barren valleys, but except in the oases irrigation is required for farming. Coffee and fruit are grown. It was the grazing of stock and the search for pasture in the arid land that developed the roving Bedouins. The Arabs raise fine horses, as well as goats, sheep, and camels.

Note: Yemen and Saudi Arabia appear on the Society's Map of Asia and Adjacent Areas. See also "Guest in Saudi Arabia," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1945; and "An Unbeliever Joins the Hadj," June, 1934.

Bulletin No. 2, April 1, 1946

Maynard Owen Williams

VEILED EYES MARVEL AT THE U. S. EXPERIMENTAL FARM NEAR AL KHOBAR

Besides geese, the farm produces cows, goats, rabbits, and vegetables to vary the diet of American workers in near-by, fast-growing Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Natives are being trained to take over many operations in the new airfield at Dhahran and in the surrounding oil fields. They learn quickly to use tools and operate machines they have never before seen.

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Elusive Islands Come and Go as the Earth Quakes on Forever

A NEW island has popped up in the Pacific Ocean about one-third of the 800-mile distance from Tokyo southward to Iwo Jima. United States Navy observers seized the chance to witness and record an exciting but fairly routine occurrence in the geographic history of the region.

When the continents tremble with earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, the earth crust may be pushed up to form new mountains, may crack or sink to leave deep valleys. When the trembling occurs somewhere in the three-fourths of the globe that lies under the oceans, islands come and go. Islands are peaks of submerged mountains.

Iwo Jima Noted for Volcanic, as Well as Military, Action

Perhaps nowhere is the ocean floor more generally restless than along the 1,600-mile submerged chain of volcanic mountains between Tokyo Bay and Guam. The highest peaks reach above sea level to form the Marianas, the Volcano, and the Bonin Islands groups and numerous individual islands. Fuming cinder-black Uracas, 1,047-foot-high cone at the northern limit of the Marianas arc, and the 500-foot Suribachi peak where the United States Marines planted their flag at the southern end of Iwo Jima, typify the chain's volcanic activity.

Particularly from Iwo Jima (Japanese for Sulphur Island) northward through the Bonins to the region of the current discovery, near Bayonnaise Rocks, is the Pacific rich in mariners' lore of disappearing islands. A submarine volcano performs intermittently close to Iwo's northern shore; and a peak in near-by waters that "surfaced" some 200 acres in 1904 disappeared completely in a few months. Measured from their ocean-floor base, these peaks rival the highest Himalayas. In Ramapo Deep, only 150 miles southeast of the new island site, the ocean bottom is 34,626 feet below the surface.

Northeastward in the volcanic Aleutians, Bogoslof Island is a famous volcano peak with ambition. It "surfaced" in the Bering Sea in 1796, and by 1823 was 2,500 feet high. Wave erosion trimmed it down for the next 60 years, but in 1883 a new Bogoslof appeared less than a mile away. Between these two rose two additional summits early in the present century. Today a continuous land strip joins old and new Bogoslof to mark the summit of this undersea Vesuvius.

Outstanding example of "come and go" is Falcon Island of the Tonga group south of Samoa (illustration, next page). First seen as a shoal in 1865, it fumed ten years later and piled up to 290 feet by 1886. Wave action reduced it again to a shoal in 1898, and a few years later it was "sunk without trace." Beginning in October, 1927, a new eruption built an island cone 360 feet high on the same spot. It, too, has been worn down to a shoal.

Tunaki Island Disappeared with 13,000 People

Krakatau Volcano, in Straat Soenda (Sunda Strait) between the islands of Java and Sumatra, lay dormant from 1860 to 1883, then put on an explosively violent eruption that darkened and flooded Batavia, 100 miles away. The eruption completely changed the form of the three islands of the Krakatau group and created several new islets.

The Mediterranean floor near the island of Pantelleria pushed up 600 feet to break the surface in 1831 and built 200-foot-high Graham's Island, which was

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local treaty of 1375, which states that the custom has been in effect "from all time."

After the heifers are transferred, the men of both nations place their hands over a frontier stone and swear an oath of peace. Then they join in a feast—and the heifers are sold back to the Frenchmen.

Note: The Pyrenees are shown on the Society's Map of Europe and the Near East.

For additional information about the Pyrenees region, see "Turbulent Spain," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1936*; "A Palette from Spain," March, 1936; and "A Skyline Drive in the (French) Pyrenees" (with 24 color photographs), October, 1937*.

Bulletin No. 3, April 1, 1946

J. Ortiz Echague

IN PYRENEES VILLAGES STYLES CHANGE LITTLE WITH PASSING CENTURIES

In remote villages tucked into Pyrenees valleys, far from the modernizing influences of motion pictures and illustrated news periodicals, old customs persist and the costumes are still patterned after those of centuries ago. At Ansó on the Spanish slopes of the mountains this first-row-in-the-balcony party is dressed in the style of Columbus' day. Though enveloping head scarfs resemble modern America's current fad, the voluminous skirts and long, full sleeves are of ancient design, and indicate that the textile shortage has not affected Ansó. Strings of onions hang from rafters above the women's heads.

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Geo-Graphic Brevities

MONROVIA, LIBERIA'S RUBBER PORT, BUILDS DEEP-WATER HARBOR

MONROVIA, capital of Liberia, Negro republic on the southwestern rim of Africa's Atlantic bulge, is building a deep-water harbor, scheduled for completion next year. Though one of the world's largest rubber-shipping ports, Monrovia has had to use lighters (small harbor boats) to move its exports to ships a mile or more off shore. The new harbor is to be a free port.

Started during the war and being built under United States supervision, Monrovia's new port is on Bushrod Island, an eight-mile-long strip north of the town, across the Mesurado River. Breakwaters enclose an area of about 1,500 acres, with 2,000 feet of docks, adequate for 10,000-ton ships.

Bushrod Island is separated from the mainland by narrow Stockton Creek. The island was named for Bushrod Washington, a cousin of George Washington. In 1816 he was the first president of the American Colonization Society, an organization which, with the aid of a Congressional appropriation, established in Liberia a home for liberated Negro slaves from the United States.

In 1821, a United States naval officer, Robert F. Stockton, for whom Stockton Creek was named, negotiated a treaty with native chiefs. This granted Cape Mesurado as a site for the capital, Monrovia, named for James Monroe, who was then President of the United States.

Liberia declared its independence in 1847 and set itself up as a republic. During the century of the nation's history, the United States, as Liberia's "next friend," has provided loans, advice, and protection.

The original colonists married natives and today their descendants number about 60,000 of Liberia's estimated population of 2,000,000.

There are under 200 miles of improved roads. The hinterland has remained under its native chiefs, and because of its inaccessibility is little known.

Only the coastal area is under cultivation. An important development is the extensive rubber plantation of an American company which in 1925 obtained a 99-year concession covering a million acres.

Production of rubber was stepped up during the war. In 1945 Liberia's rubber shipments to the United States exceeded 20,000 long tons. The total wartime output was enough to make 10,000,000 passenger-car tires. In addition to rubber, Liberia normally exports palm products and coffee.

Note: Liberia is shown on the Society's Map of Africa.

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, November 20, 1944, "Liberia, Africa's First Republic, Repays the United States with Bases."

* * * * *

MUKDEN HAS BEEN A MANCHURIA STORM CENTER FOR CENTURIES

SOVIET evacuation of Mukden (Shenyang) plus subsequent Chinese Communist-Nationalist struggles have kept in the headlines Manchuria's largest city and greatest industrial center.

Mukden has made news for a thousand years or more. Its location has brought it prominence in war and trade. In southern Manchuria about 125 miles from the Yellow Sea, it overlooks the chief north-south corridor joining northeast China and the great North Plains region. This route leads along the Liao River valley to a narrow coastal gateway which has been compared with Greece's Thermopylae.

In the 12th century Mukden was a capital of the Tatars who swept down

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reduced in a few months to a black sand bar. In 1811, Sabrina Island rose 300 feet high off São Miguel in the Azores. It soon vanished, repeating similar performances there in 1691 and 1720.

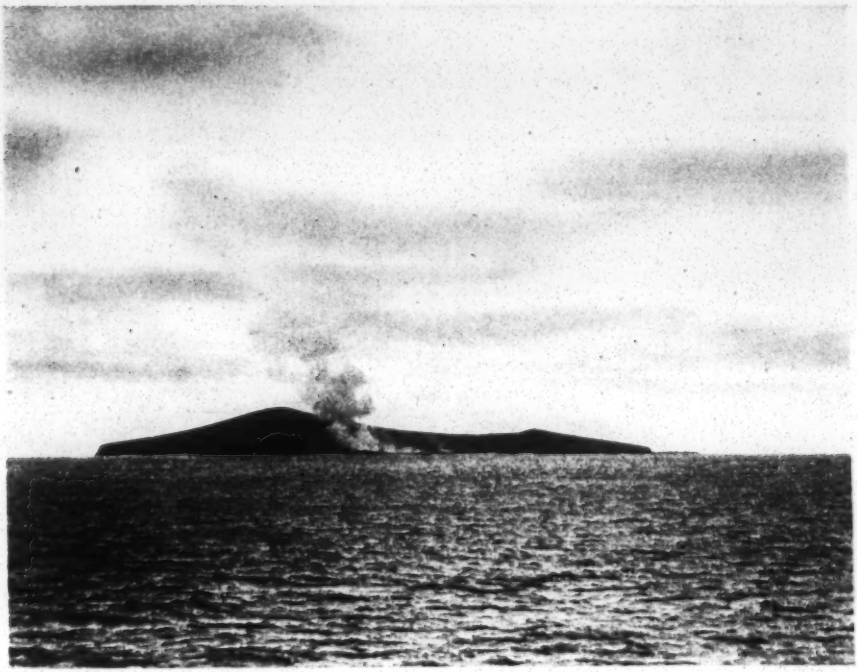
Among charted islands that have disappeared, Tunaki, in the Cook Islands southeast of Samoa, apparently took a dive about 1836 with 13,000 inhabitants aboard. When astronomers picked Sarah Ann Island in the North Pacific as an ideal spot that would give them a record-breaking seven minutes to study a total eclipse of the sun in 1937, they were looking at an old chart. Discovered in 1858, Sarah Ann hasn't been seen in the 20th century. Augustin Island, near Anchorage, Alaska, blew up and disappeared in 1933.

The Russians in 1940 described a night-glowing island of about one-fourth-square-mile area that rose in the Caspian Sea. It soon vanished. A few years earlier, Great Britain claimed a sizable land spot that had appeared close off Trinidad. It stayed around barely long enough to be claimed. In 1945, Navy men watched two islets rise and fall off the Caribbean coast of Colombia.

Note: Points at which islands have appeared and disappeared may be located on the Society's World Map, a supplement to the December, 1943, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*.

For additional information on volcanic islands, see "Tonga Islands: Living on a Volcano," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for July, 1935; and "Falcon, the Pacific's Newest Island," December, 1928.

Bulletin No. 4, April 1, 1946



H. Poole

FALCON, A HIDE-AND-SEEK ISLAND IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, HAS "SURFACED" THREE TIMES SINCE 1865

This nervous spot of land in the Tonga group has worried hydrographers for 80 years with its ups and downs. This picture shows the island shortly after its third appearance, when it was still smoking from its 1927 eruption and before wave and wind had worn it down to the mere shoal it was recently reported to be.

from northern Manchuria. Later the Manchus ruled there and in the 1630's used it as a springboard for their conquest of China. After the Manchus shifted their headquarters to Peiping in 1644, Mukden remained an important traffic center.

In modern times Mukden's location as a natural hub of communications made it a key point in the Russo-Japanese struggle for control of Manchuria. During the war of 1904-5, Mukden fell to the Japanese after a long and bitter battle.

It was at Mukden in 1931 that Japanese occupation of Manchuria was begun, with the excuse that the Chinese had blown up part of the near-by railway. During Japan's domination Manchuria's name was changed to Manchukuo, and the capital was transferred from Mukden to Changchun, a rail center to the northeast.

Between 1936 and 1940 Mukden's population practically doubled, reaching more than a million. Five railroads converge on the city, and as many main highways. Mukden was therefore a valuable distribution point for the Manchurian manufactured goods and raw materials used by Japan to build up her war machine. Coal, iron, chemicals, soybeans, grain, cement, railway equipment, hides, and sugar beets appeared on its shipping lists. Mukden also produced soap, oil, leather, soybean products, iron, and steel.

Much of the city's modern construction was designed by the Japanese along American lines. The railway station has been compared to that in Washington, D. C. A high wall encloses the old city, with its ancient imperial palaces and government buildings. Outside is the "New Town," which before the war was a Japanese concession run by the South Manchuria Railway.

Note: Mukden is shown on the Society's Map of China.

See also, "Manchuria's Railways Return to Joint Russia-China Control," in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS for March 11, 1946.

Bulletin No. 5, April 1, 1946

Burton Holmes from Galloway

IN SPITE OF MANY INVASIONS, EMBATTLED MUKDEN IS STILL CHINESE

Along a street of retail shops, quiet backwater in Mukden's Chinese section, shoes are made—and mended, pushcarts transport merchandise, and people amble along in no apparent hurry. Chinese signs predominate in this byway far from modern Japanese-constructed areas.